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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Poland/Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Strategic Routes Between Poland

and Czechoslovskia

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1. The network of roads and reilroads, considered strategic, which unites Poland and Czechoslovakia, has been completely modernized. These lines of communication are vital for the Soviet armies, since they unite Morthern and Central Europe. Labor brigades have been kept hard at work to perfect existing routes which had been abandoned in 1945.

- 2. A bridge has been constructed over the Jizera (German: Iser) River, which forms the Polish-Czechoslovak frontier. There has been complete rebuilding of the road uniting the two countries. This runs: Jeienta Gora (German: Hirsehberg) -- Piechowice (German: Petersdorf) -- Ezrachov (German: Herreschsdorf) in Poland. On the Czechoslovak side it runs: to Eradec Eralové (Ecenigsgratz). The road has been considerably widened, sharp curves have been straightened and it has been strengthened everywhere.
- 3. On the railroad, installations have been repaired between the Korenov station and Poland. Two tunnels, one of 300 and one of 900 meters, have been repaired. The line has been reenforced to handle heavy military traffic. Subterranean depots have been dug for the army between the two tunnels.
- 4. Frontier guard patrols are very active, even though the two countries are officially friends and allies. On the Czechoslovak side, the 5th Frontier Guard Brigade watches the frontier, with headquarters at Cheb. This brigade has three battalions, each with eleven companies. Each company consists of four to six platoons. Each company has trained dogs, riding horses, draft horses, two heavy machine guns, two light machine guns and rifles. There are observation towers not far behind the frontier. On the German frontier, there are mine fields.

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